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HONGKONG, DECEMBER 29TH, 1904.

One of the widest spread of Church legends has it that the Apostle THOMAS had for his sphere of teaching Asia; and that he was successful in converting the Armenians, the people of India, the Chinese, and the "Ethiopians." A later version of the legend relates how he was finally killed by an accident at a place called Mailapur, "the Peacock City," called by Marco Polo Maahar, who gives the story of the death of the Apostle current in his time, and adds: "Before he came to that place, where he thus died, he had been in Nubia, where he converted much people to the faith of JESUS CHRIST." By the XVIth century the story had attained such currency that in 1522 the Portuguese under the viceroyalty of DUARTE MENEZES actually appointed a commission to visit the site, where they found certain bones, which with great care were transported to Goa, to the Church St. Thomas, where they are still to be seen.

Of course the older version mentioned in the apocryphal Acts, and referred to the IVth century, speaks of the translation of the body of the saint from his place of death to Edessa in Mesopotamia in the year 394, while St. JEROME, about the same date, mentions St. THOMAS as having preached the faith in India, so that very respectable authority exists as to the connection of the saint with the Indian peninsula. Still, in the face of the very serious discrepancies in the two stories, the more sober historians have for the last two centuries, at least, been disposed to treat the entire story as little better than a monkish fable, and quite unworthy of credit. Of late

years more recent investigations into the early history of the old state of Gandhara, roughly represented by modern Afghanistan, assisted by the discovery *in situ* of a nearly perfect sequence of coins, have brought to light unexpected coincidences between the older legends and the sovereigns and place names of the valley of the Cabul River, which cannot be merely accidental, and which go far to strengthen the authenticity of the older legend, and throw light on the actual evangelistic work of the Apostle. Mr. W. R. PHILIPPS, in the *Indian Antiquary*, has lately been summing up the results of his investigations. The "Acts of St. Thomas" is one of those apocryphal works of the early Christian ages which are now only beginning to attract at the hands of historic students the attention they deserve—not from their intrinsic value, which is of the smallest, but from the curious sidelights they throw on many disputed questions in history, and the early expansion of the Christian religion. The original work seems to have been written about the latter part of the fifth century, but the oldest surviving transcript belongs to the year 936: the story as told is interesting. After the death of Jesus the Apostles divided amongst themselves the countries to be evangelised, and India fell to the part of THOMAS, who, however, showed little inclination for the task. Jesus himself appeared and caused THOMAS to be sold to a merchant called HABEAN, who had received an order from the King of India, whose name was GUNDAPHAR, to obtain an artist to construct and dedicate his palace. The two set out together and landed at a place called Sandaruk. Now who was this GUNDAPHAR, and what was his kingdom? From the evidence of coins a King belonging to the Indo-Scythian state which at one time possessed the valley of the Cabul River, called himself GUNDOPHERES, and there is no doubt that the two were identical. But GUNDOPHERES is an unmistakably Gothic name, the equivalent of GUNDOBERT, a name well known elsewhere as GUNDOBERT or GUNDOBALD. The Chinese writers here come to our aid, and we find he must have been the immediate successor of the king mentioned by Han writers as having crossed the Hindu Kush a few years after the birth of CHRIST, and whom they call Kiroto; and whom we must identify with the Greek KATULPHUS, whose plainly Teutonic form struck YULE as remarkable. From a comparison of the various transcriptions of the name, Chinese and Greek, there is little doubt that some such form as Godric GUTHLAF was intended. Next as to the country where the Apostle landed, there is equally little doubt that he took the ordinary sea route traversed by the Greek merchants of the day, and landed at one of the sea ports at or near the mouth of the Indus in lower Scinde, which was, as we learn from both Greek and Roman authorities, thus simply a corrupt rendering of Sanscrit Sindhu-rajya, the country of Sindhu, the contemporary name of the district. Here, the story tells us, they assisted at the marriage ceremonies of the local Rajah's daughter, whose father afterwards helped them on their way to the Court of GUNDOPHAR, then, as we learn from other sources, situated at Parashawar, the present Peshawar. So far the local colouring of the tale is clear, and points to the writer as having had personal experience of the route: what follows is more difficult. THOMAS in due course received payment for his work, and earned, according to the chronicler, besides, as a reward for his good works, his wages in Heaven. He had succeeded in converting not only the King but his brother GAD.

Here, however, occurs a narrative more difficult of explanation. An individual named SIEUZ, plainly the common Persian SHAPE, represented as a general in the service of King MAZDAI, came to visit THOMAS, and took him away in an ox carriage. Here a difficulty arises as to who was this King MAZDAI, and here we must venture on conjecture. Amongst the coins of the country recently discovered are some that bear the strange superscription Sos-nashao Bazdeo Koshana, regarding which a curious story has been elaborated of three kings, brothers, bearing the strange titles of KANISKA, HUSHKA and JUSHKA, an evident Mohammedan transliteration similar to such forms as YASOJ and MAGUJ, &c. Rather do these words seem to be titles of some of the later kings of the same country, that of Koshana, the modern Kash. The first inscription to be noticed is plain, Kshatra kshatram, cynica Kushana,

"Kshatra of Kshatra, king of Kushan"; the other above described is possibly an attempt at a translation of the same into some Indian vernacular, and the name or title seems to be identical with the Vasudeva of the Mathura inscriptions. Here he converted many of the principal persons about the Court, whose names so far as given do not readily lend themselves to identification.

The result of these recent investigations would seem to be that there is strong ground for the old legend that St. THOMAS really did come to the north-west of India, and that his mission had considerable success in the Gothic Kingdom of the Indo-Scyths, which up to about the sixth century was the most powerful neighbour of the Persian Empire of the Sassanian, and that he certainly travelled over the lands of the Parthians, and at least as far into India itself as southern Scinde. He was probably executed under one of the later so-called Scythian kings, but his body was nevertheless buried in the royal sepulchre at Peshawar; whence towards the close of the fourth century it was removed and reinterred near the present Turkish town of Orfa in Mesopotamia.

There does not appear the slightest evidence of his ever having been so far east in India as the city of Madras, and we must dismiss as a late fable the story of his remains having been removed to Goa. There remains one other fact of which we have reasonable evidence. POLO, as we have seen, sent him to Nubia. Ethiopia was, however, the country of which POLO's informant must have spoken. The Ethiopian intended was not the African, but the Asiatic Ethiopia spoken of by Herodotus whose inhabitants in connection with the Indians formed part of the great army which followed XERES to the attack on Greece. They had, in opposition to the curly locks of the African Ethiopians, straight hair, and are to be looked for in the inhabitants of Beluchistan, and thus near neighbours of the Indo-Scyths in Afghanistan. The Church has fixed his festival on the 21st December, the reason of which is not very plain, but is probably connected with the octave of the Winter Solstice of which it is the opening.

Mr. Probasco, whose name was mentioned in connection with a case at the Supreme Court yesterday, is said to be at Manila.

The Governor of Chekiang, in obedience to orders, is trying to enlist three thousand new troops to be drilled Japanese fashion.

The report that a leading Shanghai firm had received a telegram last week announcing the recall of the Baltic Fleet was a Bunder.

Capt. Rouach, of the Douglas s.s. *Haitan*, reports that on the 26th inst. a Japanese cruiser was anchored in the outer roads at Amoy.

Mr. W. Stewart is the Hon. Secretary of the Kowloon Dock Board, to be held on the 30th inst., commencing at 8.30 p.m.

Lieut. Lord Bernard C. Gordon-Lennox, Grenadier Guards, has been seconded for service with the Chinese Regiment of Infantry at Weihaiwei.

Six signed receipts of the China Mutual Life Insurance Co. for sums amounting to over \$1,000 were yesterday found on Des Vaux Road, Central, by Mr. C. M. da Silva, of the Daily Press office, who handed them to the China Mutual's compropors.

The tea merchants are already taking steps to secure space for China teas in the Belgian exhibition, and arranging to have exhibit shipments passed through the Customs free. It is doubtful, however, thinks the *Peking Times*, whether they will meet with as much success as they enjoyed in America.

In consequence of the decease of the Right Rev. Bishop Piazzesi, the President of the Catholic Union, the Club was closed yesterday and the performances of "Ali Baba" have been postponed to the 4th and 6th prox. at 9 p.m., and the 7th prox. at 5 p.m. All seats booked are cancelled. New plans of seats are on view.

The *Straits Times* understands that there was some difficulty in fumigating the baggage of the Sherwood Foresters. A case of smallpox occurred on board the *Atossa* and the baggage was sent to the fumigating chamber at the foot of Fort Palmer. Then some important parts of the disinfecting machinery were stolen.

The Hongkong Volunteer Reserve Association may have rifle practice at the King's Park Range, Kowloon, on Monday and Tuesday, 2nd and 3rd January, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Rifles and ammunition can be obtained on the range. A regimental musketry instructor will be present at the range on both days. The 400 yards range only will be available.

This item appeared in the *Peking Times*: "The Japanese have bought 2,000,000 Dutch cheeses at Gouda—for food, not for ammunition—This is a curious order, however, as the Japanese have no liking for cheese and abhorred even its smell a few years ago." In view of the quality of the Gouda cheese sold in Japanese stores a few years ago, we are inclined to think there must be something in the ammunition theory.

The American consulate at Shanghai is now in charge of Mr. J. W. Davidson, while Mr. Jno. Goodnow is in the United States. Dr. Knappe (Consul-General for Germany) is now the deacon.

Capt. Dunlop, of the s.s. *Giang Sung*, which arrived at Singapore on December 15th from Samarang, reported that he picked up two Chinamen in the bottom of a fishing boat off Pulo San in the Rio Straits.

The St. Petersburg *Svet* says—the English are terribly vexed that the trap which they laid in the North Sea did not bring the desired result, and the Japanese were woefully deceived in their expectations since their torpedo-boats in the North Sea did not succeed in damaging one Russian ship.

Another lengthy letter on the financial affairs of the Mahomedan mosque has reached us but we are not disposed to publish any more on this subject. We have been told that no balance sheet of the Mahomedan Charity Funds has been published for five years. We have also been told there is a reason for it. The latest letter throws no more light on the matter.

The *Peking Times* congratulates Mr. John Foley, Traffic Manager of the Imperial Railways, on the receipt of another decoration. Recently, General Petzel called on Mr. Foley and in the name of the Emperor William presented him with the handsome order of the Red Eagle, in recognition of his services rendered to the German troops ever since the occupation.

At the 64th Annual Meeting of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, held on the 13th December, the Directors, after providing for the usual dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum on the Preferred Stock, recommended a dividend on the Deferred Stock of 64 per cent. for the six months, and a bonus of 3 per cent., making, with the Interim Dividend of 3½ per cent. paid in June, a total distribution on the Deferred Stock of 13 per cent. for the year.

With respect to Bordeaux wines, Messrs. Gregor & Co. write:—Our reports to hand by to-day's French mail as to this year's vintage are satisfactory under every respect. The yield has not been excessive, but the quality both in ordinary wines and higher growths promises to be exceptionally good, these latter being especially very useful for bottling. The yield being only regular but quite sufficient in every district, the prices are likely to maintain themselves relatively low, and it is therefore to be hoped that 1904 vintage may be classed as to quality and price with that of 1898.

Japan has renewed her demand for Cardiff steam coal. The quantity is not definitely known, but the orders have been placed with three Cardiff merchant firms and these firms are now in the market offering freights for Shanghai. One of the best Admiralty collieries sold a parcel of 10,000 tons believed to be on Japanese account. Messrs. Moxey, Savor, and Co. have already chartered one steamer of 5,500 tons for Shanghai or Japan at a freight rate of 16s. A report that another steamer had been chartered at 16s. is contradicted, and firm offers of 17s. were known to be under consideration last month.

A world's record in shooting has just been made by the battleship *Cesar*, flagship of Lord Charles Beresford, who publicly congratulated the ship's crew. The total number of rounds fired from her 6-inch guns was 227, and the number of hits 149. This works out at 9.45 rounds per minute per gun and 6.2 hits per minute per gun. The practice with the 12-inch gun was hardly so satisfactory, although one man made six hits out of seven rounds fired. Each 6-inch gun was allowed two minutes to fire at a target made of canvas, and measuring 2 ft. by 20 ft., the range being 2,000 yards, opening out to 2,600 yards. No one was allowed to assist the guns' crews, and no "spotting" was permitted.

A telegram to the *Straits Times* said: Consequent on the signing of the Franco-Siamese Convention, Siham has appointed M. Padoux, of the French Consular Service, to be Legal Adviser of the Siham Government. Colonel Goulet has been appointed to command the native militia in the provinces of Battambang and Siemreap. Our contemporary commented: M. Padoux entered the French Consular service in 1890. He has spent the greater part of his career in Tunis, whence he comes to take up the appointment in Bangkok. M. Padoux is one of France's most brilliant Consular officers and has an excellent reputation. Regarding Col. Goulet we can find no reference. It is presumed that the command of a native militia regiment would not be given to a very prominent military officer.

"In my opinion," says a writer in *Commercial Intelligence*, "there exists in China a splendid opportunity for many lines of business, but unfortunately our own people do not for the most part master the difficulties of the language and customs of the people, and consequently business is going to Germans and others, who have taken the trouble to equip themselves more thoroughly for business in China. It is courting defeat for Europeans to go out to China to open up business there unless they are prepared to make themselves familiar with the manners of the people, to study their language and to enter into their life. I believe that if men will go out prepared to work, and to fill the requisite conditions, there is a great field for them; but I should like to say here, most emphatically, that firms who send out men whose only thought is to live as near as possible up to the manners of the English country gentleman, are doing an ill service not only to them selves, but to the nation itself."

The Hongkong Observatory yesterday issued the following report:—On the 23rd at 11.30 a.m. the barometer has fallen in Formosa and over the neighbouring portion of the Pacific, and has risen at all other stations. The anticyclone continues over the interior of China and is extending eastward towards S.W. Japan. Gradients are rather steeper upon the east coast of China and fresh N.E. monsoon will be continued in the Formosa Channel and to the northward, and fresh strong monsoon in the China Sea.

Forecast.—Fresh to strong E. winds, cloudy, fair.

It is announced in the *Gazette* that the King has granted unto Mr. Walter Denning authority to accept and wear the Insignia of the Fifth Class of the Imperial Japanese Order of the Rising Sun, conferred upon him in recognition of valuable services rendered by him to the Emperor of Japan in his capacity of Professor of English Literature in the Second High School at Sendai.

Four time-expired employees at the Naval Yard, Messrs. Gray, Hedge, Varcoe and Bull, received presentations the other evening from their Naval Yard colleagues. Mr. Gray—an inspector of fitters—and Mr. Hedge—a storehouse-man—left for Home by the C.P.R. mail steamer yesterday. Mr. Varcoe—a boilermaker—and Mr. Bull—a founder—leave for home on Saturday.

The *Sinco-pao* states that the Shangpu has assented to the proposal of Shantung gentry to mark out commercial Settlements in Cheutun and Weilinson, where foreigners may reside and trade, but that it is stipulated that there shall be no perpetual leases granted to foreigners as in Treaty ports; only temporary leases for a certain number of years, liable to renewal on expiration. Furthermore, no landholder can sell his land to foreigners, and poor natives desiring to sell their lands within the Settlement in question must sell to the official Land Bureau.

A bird fancier was before the Police Court yesterday morning to answer a charge of hawking without a licence. His wares—consisting of four coops of fowls—were brought along with him and placed outside the door of the large Court. As Mr. Gompertz was busily engaged deciding facts in cases, he was frequently disturbed by the loud crowing of several cocks, and at length ordered their removal. A Chinese constable, in the execution of this duty, happened to break one of the coops, and the fowls got out. Then followed a worse commotion than ever.

A Peking letter states, according to the *N.G. Daily News*, that a wealthy notable of Anhui province, named Sun, has succeeded in starting a Company for the establishment of a cotton spinning mill in the district of Pocheh, in the same province. He has already obtained shares to the extent of Ts. 100,000, of which the Grand Secretary Wang Wenshao and Generals Ma Yu-k'un and Chiang Kuei-ti—the latter commanding the division of Viceroy Yuan Shih-kai's foreign-modelled troops guarding the Imperial Palaces—have bought Ts. 60,000 worth. A special deputy, a sub-prefect named Tien Kuei, who has a little knowledge of English, it is stated, has been appointed to go to the United States to purchase the necessary machinery for the proposed mill.

"KING DODO."

On Saturday night the Pollard "kiddies" will introduce to Hongkong "King Dodo," an entirely new musical comedy, which according to a Shanghai contemporary has pretty music, smart dialogue, with much of the charm of a fairy tale to commend it to public favour.

A brief outline of the comedy shows King Dodo as feeling the burden of his years hanging heavily upon him. He commands Madge, his court historian, to turn back the clock thirty years. His command, however, though carried out, does not have the desired effect of making him feel younger. He then commands Dr. Fizz, his Court physician, to prepare some drug which will bring back his youthful days. Dr. Fizz then prepares his marvellous Elixir of Life, which has the desired effect, and leads H.R.H. into many ludicrous adventures, finally ending in his betrothal to Queen Lili, neighbouring ruler. There is much smart dialogue between these two, and funny situations.

Master Jack Pollard in the title role made a tremendous hit, it being a part that suits him admirably, while Miss Daphne Pollard in the part of Piola played the part in her well-known versatile manner. Miss Olive Moore gave a wonderful performance of the part of Queen Lili. The play is brimful of sparkling wit and merriment, and should not be missed by anyone who enjoys a capital night's entertainment. "King Dodo" will be produced on Saturday, 31st December, and Monday, 2nd January. The company will leave for Manila on Tuesday, 3rd January, and from there on to Canada and the United States, where they are booked for a season covering some eighteen months.

SECRET SOCIETIES IN NORTH CHINA.

It is reported from Peking that members of secret societies from the Southern and Central provinces have been lately organising branch societies in the neighbourhood of Kalgan, on the Chihli-Mongolian frontier. The names of the secret societies are Tsayuan Hui (from South-western Chihli); Hungchun Hui (from Kwantung province). It is further stated that the emissaries of these societies have been very successful, each society having obtained from 900 to 1,200 members, within the past three months. The authorities, however, appear to be aware of these things, and are preparing for eventualities.

WEATHER REPORT.

The Hongkong Observatory yesterday issued the following report:—

On the 23rd at 11.30 a.m. the barometer has fallen in Formosa and over the neighbouring portion of the Pacific, and has risen at all other stations.

The anticyclone continues over the interior of China and is extending eastward towards S.W. Japan.

**GREGOR & CO.,
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.**

HONGKONG.

SANDEMAN BUCK & CO.'S SHERRIES.

SANDEMAN'S LIGHT DRY SHERRY	Per Dozen Quarts \$14.00
SANDEMAN'S VERY PALE DRY SHERRY	20.00
SANDEMAN'S DRY PALE NUTTY SHERRY	26.00
SANDEMAN'S FINE OLD BROWN SHERRY	39.00

N.B.—All our Wines and Spirits are Bottled at Home, thereby ensuring to our Customers all the advantages accruing from bottlings done at home under the direct supervision of the Growers and Distillers, as compared to bottlings done in China by Chinamen at the service of European Houses.

2735-16

TO LET:**TO LET:**

NO. 1, RIPPON TERRACE.
A HOUSE in WONG-NEI-CHONG ROAD, facing Race-course.
FLATS in MORPETH TERRACE, facing the Polo Ground.

OFFICES in course of erection, CONNAUGHT ROAD (near BLAKE PIER).
GODOWNS; PRAYA EAST.

Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LTD.
Hongkong, 19th June, 1904.

175

TO LET:

NO. 1, STEWART TERRACE, the Peak.
Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LTD.
Hongkong, 28th March, 1904.

18

BACHELORE QUARTERS TO LET.

A LARGE AIRY ROOM, in the Central District, with Bright Verandah, and Bathroom and Kitchen attached. Terms moderate.
Apply to—
Care of *Daily Press* Office.
Hongkong, 24th December, 1904.

1983

TO LET.

OFFICE ROOMS at Nos. 12 & 14, Queen's Road Central (Corner House); also GODOWNS at Back. Can be let separately or wholly. Rent moderate, cheaper if the whole is taken on a long lease.

SEVEN EUROPEAN HOUSES, late F. Blackhead & Co. and Shewan, Tones & Co.'s Offices. Ground Floors and Top Floors with Godowns can be let separately on leases.

Apply to—
CHUNG SHUN KOO,
12 & 14, Queen's Road Central.
Hongkong, 24th December, 1904.

2832

TO LET.

NOS. 19 & 21, SEYMOUR ROAD.
No. 74, CAINE ROAD.
GODOWNS Nos. 31A, 34B, 34C, Praya East
Possession from 1st January, 1905.

Apply to—
COMPAEDORE'S DEPARTMENT,
Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Hongkong, 1st December, 1904.

1430

HONGKONG CLUB.

TO LET.
A SUITE of TWO ROOMS, on the Ground Floor of the Annex, suitable for Offices. For particulars apply to the undersigned:
C. H. GRACE,
Secretary.

Hongkong, 4th June, 1904.

1417

TO LET.

BANGOUR (PEAK).
BYRIE Unfurnished, to Let, in about 2 months. Newly repaired, Painted and Colour-washed.

No. 7, BELLEQS TERRACE, 1st Row.
No. 20, " 3rd Row.
Nos. 11 & 14, " 2nd Row.
BEACONSFIELD ARCADE, No. 14, 1st Floor.

BUNGALOW (Furnished), at New Territory, Kowloon, 4 Rooms, low rental.

Apply to—
LINSTEAD & DAVIS.
Hongkong, 12th December, 1904.

2363

TO LET.

ONE LARGE GODOWN, No. 112A, Praya East.
Possession from 1st January, 1905.

Apply to—
D. DORABEE,
King Edward Hotel.
Hongkong, 25th December, 1904.

2751

TO LET.

3RD FLOOR, suitable for Office.
Apply to—
WING CHEONG,
35, Queen's Road Central.
Hongkong, 3rd June, 1904.

27

TO LET.

GODOWN No. 3, New Praya, Kennedy Town.
Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LTD.
Hongkong, 22nd November, 1904.

2725

TO LET.

A EUROPEAN HOUSE, No. 158, Praya East, Four Rooms and Kitchen, Servants' Quarters, Bathrooms, Hot and Cold Water. Good Sea View.

Apply to—
JARDINE, MATHESON & CO.
Hongkong, 8th August, 1904.

1177

TO LET.

A T East Point, a NEW BRICK-BUILT TWO STORED GODOWN with Water Frontage.

Apply to—
JARDINE, MATHESON & CO.
Hongkong, 26th November, 1904.

2762

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COLD STORAGE.

THE HONGKONG ICE COMPANY, LTD. have now 40,000 Cubic feet of Co. Storage available at EAST POINT. Stores will be Open at 10 A.M. and 4 P.M. daily, Sunday, excepted to receive and deliver perishable goods.

WM. PARLANCE, Manager.

Hongkong, 18th November, 1904.

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SHIPPING

ARRIVALS.
 AILSACRAIG, British str., 2,163, A. D. Moody,
 27th Dec.—Moj 21st Dec., Cool.—M. B.
 Kaishi.
 AUSTRALIAN, French str., 6,569, H. Veron,
 23rd December.—Marseilles 27th Nov., and
 Saxon 24th Dec., Mail and General—
 Messengers Maritimes.
 DE. HANS JORG KIAER, Norwegian str., 691,
 H. E. Larson, 28th Dec.—Manila 24th
 December.—Bulat, E. A. Trading Co.
 ELSE, German str., 903, J. Petersen, 27th Dec.,
 —Hamburg and Hollow 26th Dec., Rice,
 —Jelton & Co.
 GIEBEL, Austrian str., 2,640, G. Damjanovich,
 28th Dec.—Kobe and Shanghai 24th Dec.,
 General—Sandor, Wiele & Co.
 HASTAN, British str., 1,183, Roach, 28th Dec.,
 —Coss Port 23rd Dec., General—Douglas
 Lapraik & Co.
 HANGZHOU, British str., 1,356, Wilde, 28th
 Dec.—Shanghai 24th Dec. and Swatow 27th,
 General—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
 JACOB DIEDERIKSEN, German str., 623, B.
 Olsen, 25th December.—Swatow 27th Dec.,
 General—Jensen & Co.
 LAISANG, British str., 3,460, E. J. Tadd, 27th
 December.—Calcutta 10th Dec. and Singapo-
 ron 21st, General—Jardine, Matheson
 & Co.
 RUM, British str., 1,611, R. W. Almond, 28th
 December.—Manila 24th Dec. and Amoy
 27th, General—Shewan, Tomes & Co.
 TELEMACUS, British str., 1,349, J. William-
 son, 28th Dec.—Sagam 22nd Dec., Rice
 and General—Chines.
 TINGSAW, British str., 1,640, R. C. D. Bradley,
 28th December.—Wuh 23rd Dec., Rice and
 Beans—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

CLEARANCES.

AT THE HARBOUR MASTER'S OFFICE.

28th December.

DIMON, Austrian str., for Kutchiectau.
 Hampsong, British str., for Canton.
 Kashung, British str., for Kobe.
 Manopequa, British str., for Shanghai.
 Pingyang, British str., for Canton.

DEPARTURES.

28th December.

ATHENIAN, British str., for Vancouver.
 BRUNHILDE, German str., for Bangkok.
 ELISABETH RICKMERS, Ger. str., for Bangkok.
 ESANG, British str., for Shanghai.
 FAUSANG, British str., for Surabaya.
 GREGORY APCAR, British str., for Calcutta.
 MEDAN, German str., for Chalmpo.
 MEEFOO, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 PALAMCOTTA, British str., for Rangoon.
 PELEUS, British str., for Nagasaki.
 RAJABURI, German str., for Bangkok.

VESSELS IN DOCK.

28th December.

ABERDEEN DOCKS—Cecil II.
 KOWLOON DOCKS—U.S.S. Fathomer. Agin-
 courts Hu, Indiaman, Empress of China.
 CORONATION DOCK—S.M.S. Sperber.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.
 DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY,
 LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW.

THE Company's Steamship
 "HAICHING." Captain Hodges will be despatched for the
 above ports TO-DAY, the 28th inst., at 10 A.M.
 For Freight or Passage, apply to

DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & CO.,
 General Managers.
 Hongkong, 28th December, 1904. [3066]



AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S STEAM NAVI-
 GATION COMPANY.

STEAM FOR

Fiume and Trieste (DIRECT),
 Calling at Singapore, Penang, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi, Aden, Suez and Port Said.
 (Taking cargo at through rates to the Brazils, to South Africa, Persian Gulf, Red Sea, Black Sea, Levant, Venice and Adriatic Ports).

THE Company's Steamship

"GISFLA."

Captain Damjanovich will be despatched as above
 TO-DAY, the 29th inst., P.M.
 For information as to Passage and Freight,
 apply to

SANDER, WIELER & CO.,
 Agents.

Princes' Buildings.

Hongkong, 2nd December, 1904. [3066]

REGULAR

STEAMSHIP SERVICE TO NEW
 YORK.

VIA PORTS AND SUEZ CANAL
 (WITH LIBERTY TO CALL AT MALABAR
 COAST).

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

1904. About

"SHIMOSA" ... 30th Dec.
 "GHAZEE" ... 25th Jan.
 "SATSUMA" ... 5th Feb.

For Freight and further information, apply to

DODWELL & CO. LTD.,
 Agents.

Hongkong, 28th December, 1904. [3077]

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL
 STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

STEAM FOR STRAITS, CEYLON, AUS-
 TRALIA, INDIA, ADEN, EGYPT, MEDI-
 TERNEANEAN PORTS.

PLYMOUTH AND LONDON.
 THROUGH BILLS OF LADING ISSUED FOR
 BATAVIA, PERSIAN GULF, CONTINENTAL,
 AMERICAN AND SOUTH AFRICAN PORTS.

THE Steamship

"BENGAL."

Captain G. Philips, carrying His
 Majesty's Mail, will be despatched from this for
 Bombay on SATURDAY, the 31st December,
 at NOON, taking passengers and cargo for the
 above ports in connection with the Company's
 s.s. "Victoria," 6,552 tons, from Colombo.
 Passengers' accommodation in which vessel is
 secured before departure from Hongkong.

Silk and Valuables, all cargo for France, and
 Tea for London (under arrangement), will be
 transhipped at Colombo into the mail steamer
 proceeding direct to Marseilles and London;
 other cargo for London &c. will be conveyed
 from Bombay by the R.M.S. "Oriental," due
 in London on the 12th February, 1905.

Parcels will be received at this Office until
 4 p.m. the day before sailing. The contents
 and value of all packages are required.

For further particulars, apply to

E. A. HEWETT,
 Superintendent.

Hongkong, 19th December, 1904. [1]

To ascertain the anchorage of any Vessel, the Harbour has been divided into Four Sections commencing from Green Island. Vessels anchoring nearest Kowloon are marked K, nearest Hongkong H, midway between Hongkong and Kowloon M, and those vessels berthed at the Kowloon Wharf K.W., together with the number denoting the section.

SECTIONS.

1. From Green Island to the Harbour Master's.
 2. From Harbour Master's to Blake Pier.

3. From Blake Pier to Naval Yard.
 4. From Naval Yard to East Point.

DESTINATION	VESSEL'S NAME	FLAG & CO.	BERTH	CAPTAIN	FOR FREIGHT APPLY TO	TO BE DESPATCHED
LONDON, &c. VIA PORTS OF CALL	BENGAL	Brit str.	—	G. Philippis	P. & O. S. N. Co.	On 31st inst., at Noon.
LONDON & ANTWERP	BENLOMOND	Brit str.	—	Clark	GIBR. LIVINGSTON & CO.	About 10th Jan.
AMSTERDAM, LONDON & ANTWERP	MOYUNE	Brit str.	1 m.	—	BUTTERFIELD & SWINE	On 3rd Jan.
AMS-TEEDAM, LONDON & ANTWERP	HYSON	Brit str.	1 m.	Davis	BUTTERFIELD & SWINE	On 17th Jan.
AMSTEEDAM, LONDON & ANTWERP	PHALM	Brit str.	1 m.	—	MESSEGERIES MARITIMES	On 31st Jan.
MARSEILLE, &c. VIA PORTS OF CALL	DUMBEA	Frenstr.	—	—	MELCHERS & CO.	On 10th Jan., at 1 P.M.
BLEMEEN, VIA PORTS OF CALL	SEYDLITZ	Ger. str.	—	Charbennel	HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE	On 4th Jan., at Noon.
HAVER & HAMBURG	ARMENIA	Ger. str.	k. w.	C. Devers	HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE	On 1st Jan.
HAVER & HAMBURG	C. FERD. LAEISZ	Ger. str.	k. w.	Forst.	HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE	On 2nd Jan.
HAVER & HAMBURG	AMBRIA	Ger. str.	k. w.	von Hoff	HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE	On 7th Jan.
HAVER & HAMBURG	SITHONIA	Ger. str.	k. w.	Porzelius	HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE	On 14th Jan.
HAVER & HAMBURG	ACADEIA	Ger. str.	k. w.	Hildebrandt	HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE	On 21st Jan.
HAVER & HAMBURG	RHEMANIA	Ger. str.	k. w.	Förk	HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE	On 28th Jan.
TRISTAN	SAMBIA	Ger. str.	k. w.	Filler	HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE	On 7th Feb.
TRISTAN	GISELA	Ans. str.	—	Behrens	HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE	On 14th Mar.
TRISTAN	HECTOR	Brit str.	1 m.	Lüning	HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE	On 21st Mar.
TRISTAN	SHIMOSA	Brit str.	—	Damjanovich	HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE	To-day, P.M.
TRISTAN	SENECA	Brit str.	—	Edmonson	BUTTERFIELD & SWINE	On 20th Jan.
TRISTAN	RAS ISSA	Brit str.	—	Dodwell & Co., Ltd.	BUTTERFIELD & SWINE	About 30th inst.
TRISTAN	TARTAR	Brit str.	1 m.	—	STANDARD OIL CO.	About 25th Jan.
TRISTAN	EMPEROR OF CHINA	Brit str.	2 m.	Shewan, Tomes & Co.	STANDARD OIL CO.	About 20th Jan.
TRISTAN	TEMBONT	Brit str.	—	E. Beetham, R.N.E.	CANADIAN PACIFIC R. CO.	On 25th Jan.
TRISTAN	NICOMEDIA	Brit str.	—	T. W. Garlick	CANADIAN PACIFIC R. CO.	On 11th Jan.
AUSTRALIAN PORTS	AUSTRALIAN	Brit str.	—	Dodwell & Co., Limited	PORTLAND & ASIATIC S.S. CO.	On 14th Jan.
AUSTRALIAN PORTS	TAIWAN	Brit str.	—	—	PORTLAND & ASIATIC S.S. CO.	On 9th Jan., at Daylight.
KOBE	TAIWAN	Brit str.	—	—	JARDINE, MATTHESON & CO.	On 11th Jan., at Noon.
KOBE	KASHING	Brit str.	—	—	JARDINE, MATTHESON & CO.	On 20th Jan.
KOBE	TAIWAN	Brit str.	—	—	BUTTERFIELD & SWINE	To-day.
KOBE	KWONGSANG	Brit str.	—	—	BUTTERFIELD & SWINE	On 3rd Jan.
KOBE	LOKSANG	Brit str.	—	—	BUTTERFIELD & SWINE	To-day.
KOBE	CORONADEL	Brit str.	—	—	BUTTERFIELD & SWINE	On 21st Mar.
KOBE	TRIUMPH	Jap. str.	—	G. M. Montford, R.N.R.	BUTTERFIELD & SWINE	About 31st inst.
KOBE	FRITHJOF	Jap. str.	—	A. Hansen	OSAKA SHOSEN KAISHA	On 4th Jan., at Daylight.
KOBE	M. STRUVE	Jap. str.	—	H. A. Halsdorff	OSAKA SHOSEN KAISHA	On 1st Jan., at Daylight.
KOBE	DECIMA	Jap. str.	—	T. Brandt	OSAKA SHOSEN KAISHA	On 8th Jan., at Daylight.
KOBE	HAICHING	Jap. str.	2 h.	Schäffer	OSAKA SHOSEN KAISHA	To-morrow, at Daylight.
KOBE	HAITAN	Jap. str.	2 h.	Hodgius	DODWEIL & CO. LTD.	To-day, at 10 A.M.
KOBE	LONGKANG	Jap. str.	—	Roach	DODWEIL & CO. LTD.	To-morrow, at 10 A.M.
KOBE	RUBI	Jap. str.	—	Weigall	DODWEIL & CO. LTD.	To-morrow, at 10 A.M.
KOBE	TAMING	Jap. str.	1 m.	W. W. Almond	DODWEIL & CO. LTD.	On 31st inst., at 10 A.M.
KOBE	TREMONT	Jap. str.	—	Pennfather	DODWEIL & CO. LTD.	On 3rd Jan.
KOBE	ZAFIRO	Jap. str.	—	T. W. Garlick	DODWEIL & CO. LTD.	About 3rd Jan.
KOBE	TILAJAP	Jap. str.	—	R. Rodger	DODWEIL & CO. LTD.	On 7th Jan., at 10 A.M.
KOBE	LAISANG	Jap. str.	—	Todd	DODWEIL & CO. LTD.	Quick despatch.
KOBE	LAISANG	Jap. str.	—	—	JARDINE, MATTHESON & CO.	On 4th Jan., at 3 P.M.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH

"BEN" LINE OF STEAMERS.

FOR LONDON AND ANTWERP.

THE Steamship

"BENLOMOND."

Captain Clark, will be despatched as above
 on or about the 10th January, 1905.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

GIBR. LIVINGSTON & CO.,
 Agents.

Hongkong, 13th December, 1904. [2888]

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES
 MARITIMES.

FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

SIEAM FOR SAIGON,

SINGAPORE, BATAVIA,
 COLOMBO, INDIA, ADEN,
 EGYPT, MARSEILLES,

London, H

SUPREME COURT.

Wednesday, 28th December.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR MR. T. SERCOMBE SMITH (PUNSY JUDGE).

MOOSA E. VIEIRA AND CO. V. THE CHINA EASTERN CONTRACTING CO.

In this case the plaintiff firm, merchants, residing at No. 36, Queen's Road Central, claimed from the defendant firm, merchant, recently of No. 36, Queen's Road Central, \$46,900, \$400 being rent owing to them and \$16,900 costs of the action.

Mr. Dixon (of Mr. John Hastings' office) appeared for the plaintiff firm, and Mr. E. J. Grist (of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) for the defendant firm.

The \$400 was stated as being three months' rent at \$10 per month, payable in advance, for October, November and December, and one month's rent in lieu of notice.

Moss Ebrahim, a partner in the plaintiff firm, said he made the letting arrangements with a representative—Mr. Probascio—of the defendant firm. Mr. Probascio, who said he was a partner in the China Eastern Contracting Co., went into possession in September, and paid the rent for that month in advance. The plaintiff firm had received no rent since. The defendants left the premises on the 12th December. Since that date a distress had been issued on the furniture.

Mr. Dixon said the furniture realized some \$100, so the plaintiffs were now suing only for the balance due.

Cross-examined, witness said he forgot whether he gave a receipt for the rent for September in Mr. Probascio's name, or in the name of the firm. Mr. Probascio lived on the premises, using one of three rooms as a bedroom and the other two rooms as offices. He did not know when Mr. Probascio's Company was formed; Mr. Probascio said he was going to open a firm.

His Honour said that as the Company was not formed when Mr. Probascio rented the premises, the contract could not be taken to have been made on behalf of the Company. He gave judgment for the defendant firm with costs.

THE HO FAT KEE V. LI KAN TAI.

The plaintiff in this action claimed \$150 plus \$10, \$10 being costs and \$50 expense on account of bailiff. Mr. O. D. Thomson appeared on behalf of the plaintiff firm of contractors, doing business at No. 49, Queen's Road East. The defendant, a junk owner whose junk is under arrest, was represented by Mr. Dixon (of Mr. John Hastings' office). The plaintiff alleged that the money had been lent by him to the defendant.

The defendant said he had paid the money to Ho Fat, a partner in the Ho Fat Kee shop.

A witness for the defence said he had seen Ho Fat at a quarter to two that afternoon, just outside the Supreme Court, but, instead of waiting to give evidence, he had gone off in a ricksha with the plaintiff.

Mr. Dixon applied for a remand so that he might try and bring Ho Fat to give evidence.

The plaintiff had previously stated that he was in Mr. Hastings' office between one and two o'clock.

His Honour remanded the case till Friday afternoon, remarking—Injustice is being done somewhere. There is something crooked which I want to get at.

FOOTBALL.

HONGKONG FOOTBALL CLUB "A" TEAM v. R.E. RESERVES.

This match was played at Happy Valley yesterday afternoon, and resulted in a win for the Engineers by four goals to nil. Teams were as follows:

Club—Konnet, goal: E. F. Aucott and Substitute, backs; Grön, Brown and Henderson, halves; H. Seth, Clarke, Taylor, Davies and J. Wenzys, forwards.

Reserves—Widows, goal; Henwood and Parker, backs; Russ, Nettleton and Bell, halves; Bessie, Spires, Heutley, Thistleton and Hampson, forwards.

The Club, as usual, started off one man short, but despite the odds kept the play around the soldiers' goal for some time. At length the Engineers worked the ball nicely along the left wing to their opponents' goal, and, in a scramble in front, Grön, with one of those unfortunate shots which occasionally occur, sent the ball into the net, thus scoring for the Engineers. In a fresh start the Club worked the leather towards their opponents' net. It was nicely centred by Seth, but the goalkeeper, rushing out, sent it well along the field. The soldiers got on it, and for a time the Club posts had to be smartly guarded by the goalkeeper. Play was then transferred to the other end of the field, where the Club had four corner kicks in succession. A smart struggle occurred in front of the soldiers' posts after each kick, but when the whistle blew the score remained unchanged.

Half-time: Engineers, 1; Club, nil.

The beginning of the second half found the play in front of the Club's stronghold, where each team were working hard. Bessie eventually shot a second goal for the Engineers. The Club were still hard pressed, but working well together transferred the ball to the vicinity of their opponents' goal. Seth had a shot in front, but the leather was driven above the net. The space again lessened before the Club's goal, and, in a rally in front, Heutley shot it in. Shortly afterwards the same player drove a second ball home.

Result:—Engineers 4; Club, nil.

H.K. F.C. v. A NAVAL TEAM. This Rugby match will be played on the Club Ground, Happy Valley, this afternoon—kick-off at 4.45 p.m. The following have been chosen to play for the Club—T. C. Gray, back; J. Thomson, S. O. Else, Lieut. Hammar and A. S. Kemptherne, three-quarters; J. Clark and H. Soper, halves; E. R. Hallifax, A. Boyd, Capt. Elgood, Lieut. Black, J. C. Steen, Lieut.-Bannin and H. F. Chard (capt.), forwards.

PARIS.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT]

25th November.

WEATHER.

The suddenness with which the winter has set in has surprised everybody, and taken most Parisians quite unaware. Considering the exceptionally warm summer we have had, there is indeed every reason to anticipate one of the old-fashioned winters—severe and long. Misery prevails everywhere, despite all the efforts made by the Government and private persons to alleviate the endless sufferings of the poor. The sweeping away of the snow and slush has given work to many unemployed. So much remains to be done, that the Municipality may be excused for feeling somewhat embarrassed. The Municipal Council of this city does exemplary work during the winter as regards assisting the genuine necessities; it is no easy task, as one may readily imagine, to relieve thousands of men, women, and children as soon as winter and all its drawbacks set in. Yet, relief is extended right and left; more cannot be done. Whether fewer impostors about, public willingness to aid would still be more apparent; unfortunately, there are still too many about that seek the cloak of charity as an excuse for not working. As one cannot give to all, many who no doubt really deserve help suffer in consequence. Loafers—and their name is legion in every country—do a vast amount of harm. The authorities are ever on the alert for such deceivers, whom they punish most severely. Heart-rending accounts of families subsisting on a mere nothing fill the papers; cases of this kind are not overlooked as a rule, so far as public charity is concerned.

A CAPITAL PLAY.

The Theatre Antoine is one of the best places in Paris where to see a clever, most up-to-date, and amusing piece. Its last production entitled *L'Avile de Nuit* is certainly no exception to this remark. When the curtain rises, the aisle or night shelter is just on the point of closing for the night, the time being nine o'clock. The director having finished his day's work is going off to play his usual game of cards at the *café* opposite with his chums, leaving "Monsieur Soupe," his underling, so called because the only person in the establishment who ever gets the morning soup which each wifl and stray is supposed to receive. A ring is heard at the door; on the latter being opened, a wretched creature, with a ridiculous comic name, all rags and tatters, tries hard to seek admission. The director who was about to leave for the purpose of enjoying himself becomes naturally furious in being delayed by the new-comer, and after banging down his hat and coat, and complaining of the bitterness of his lot, puts no end of absurd questions to the poor old man, who stands helpless and shivering before him. One thing trifles the unfortunate, the idea of taking a bath! He would be the happiest of mortals, could he only be let off that curse; the more so, as "experience" has taught him that dirt, once it has accumulated, is so comforting and warming that he is next to unable to live without it. The director, while dying to get off, insists upon the stranger being bathed and so conform to the rules of the establishment. Unable to stand it any longer, Monsieur le Directeur flings himself out of the aisle, leaving his representative to do the best he can under the circumstances. Monsieur Soupe agrees to listen patiently to the individual's tale of woe. The two are actually deeply engaged in conversation, M. Soupe telling the wayfarer in turn how badly the shelter is managed, when who should come in unexpectedly but the director! The latter after having explained in a stage whisper that he is very uneasy because some journalists have recently visited a neighboring aisle, and shown things up, proceeds to flatter his latest guest in the wildest manner, and to offer him every comfort, much to the astonishment of "Monsieur Soupe," who looks on bewildered, particularly so, when the *directeur* after being so exacting, orders that the stranger is to be exempted from a bath. Subsequently, a whole bundle of good clothes sent by some charitable person is really given to the person for whom they were intended—a homeless wifl; the explosion of the stranger who is suspected of being one of the uncharitable journalists in question, and of M. Soupe follows, when the curtain comes down on a most laughable play, for which the Theatre Antoine has long since been noted.

POLITICAL PROSPECTS.

What will the next Cabinet be like? This is a question which everyone is talking about, since that of M. Combes is gradually sinking more and more. It never was so near disappearance as at the beginning of the week, when the Minister of Finance, M. Ronvieu, a very able man, sent his resignation to M. Loubet, on the plea that he strongly disapproved of the Income Tax Bill which M. Combes was determined to pass at all costs through Parliament. The President of the Republic, who views the inevitable crumbling to pieces of the Cabinet with sorrow, did all he could to induce M. Ronvieu to remain where he was, but the Minister of Finance not only formally refused to do so, but also kept away from the Cabinet Council meeting. Nothing else was to be done but to lay M. Ronvieu's letter of resignation before the Cabinet. Matters grew gradually worse, for M. Delcasse, Minister of Foreign Affairs, M. Chauvelin, Minister of Public Instruction, and M. Marjoulis, Minister of Public Works, threatened to resign as soon as the resignation of M. Ronvieu was accepted. Of course, the crisis implied the certain downfall of the Ministry. Out of respect for M. Loubet, the three named Ministers agreed to do nothing in regard to their threatened resignations during the day.

In the course of the afternoon M. Loubet went to pay a visit to M. Ronvieu, and succeeded in inducing him to withdraw his resignation. A crisis was thus averted thanks to the able tact and diplomacy of the President of the Republic, on whose shoulders all troubles fall. M. Combes will not remain in power very much longer. He is becoming very unpopular with the masses—that which means the signing of his death warrant, as a politician.

POLICE COURT.

Wednesday, 28th December.

BEFORE MR. H. H. J. GOMPERTZ (FIRST POLICE MAGISTRATE).

ALLEGED ATTEMPTED BRIDGERY.

Ho Yu Ting, Sergeant Interpreter at Kowloon City, was charged with attempted bribery. Sergeant Cameron prosecuted, and Mr. Bailey (of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master's office) appeared on behalf of the accused. Sergeant Cameron stated that on the 6th instant Wing Sun, the complainant, went to the defendant's private residence for the purpose of getting the date of a burial permit altered from the 6th to the 7th instant. The Interpreter said he could not alter the permit. The complainant went away and called on him again, when the defendant said he would alter the date provided he paid a sum of \$8. Meantime, complainant's son had come to Hongkong and obtained permission from the authorities to alter the date of the permit. After the hearing of lengthy evidence, His Worship discharged defendant, and recalling a witness for the prosecution Wong Tai Fook, son of the complainant, ordered him to pay a fine of \$25 for telling lie in the witness box, or to undergo in default two months' imprisonment.

ALLEGED LARCENY.

Su Kai, at the instance of Sergeant Grant, was charged with the larceny of \$50 from the firm of Messrs. J. Reiss and Company, Queen's Buildings. The evidence of two rickshaw coolies who lived with the defendant on the premises showed that he had given each of them a dollar to buy samshu and Chinese delicacies. He further gave each of them a ticket to go to a Chinese theatre. They went, and he joined them later. They stayed at the theatre all night, and the rickshaw coolies were the first to return next morning. The defendant arrived after them and immediately walked into Mr. Tompkins, the manager's room. He called out "Things have been stolen." When the coolies came into the room he said, pointing to a box, "The master has lost something from this box; we three will be blamed for it. I will take this crowbar and force open the side door leading to the stairway, also the door leading from the veranda into the taipan's room. He will then think somebody from the outside broke in." The defendant then went and informed the master, and on Mr. Tompkins' arrival, he discovered that \$50 had been removed from a box in his office. As none of the money could be found on the defendant, and as His Worship did not consider the evidence sufficiently strong, the charge was dismissed.

TEAD.

Lok San, one of the witnesses in the previous case, was charged with being a member of the Triad Society. The case was remanded, in order that translations might be made of books in his possession.

BEFORE MR. F. A. HAZELAND (SECOND POLICE MAGISTRATE).

A DARING THEFT.

Wong Yenng, a coolie, bolted with a bag of \$500 in Queen's Road entral on Tuesday last. The evidence showed that two Chinese gentlemen went to a money changer's to change a \$1,000 bill into subsidiary coin. The money changer gave them a bag containing \$500, which after examining and finding correct, they placed on the counter. They were busy examining a second bag containing a similar amount when Wong snatched the money on the counter and ran away, followed by an Indian watchman. He took a rickshaw and urged the coolie along Queen's Road. The runner was, however, not lengthening the distance between the pursued and pursuer, so the defendant dispensed with his services and took another rickshaw. This coolie made the pace warm, but unfortunately for Wong, the vehicle capsized, and he was thrown on to the road, where he was caught by the watchman and given in charge. On appearing before His Worship he pleaded guilty and was sentenced to a term of three months' hard labour, and in lieu of one day of the said imprisonment, six hours' public exposure in the stocks.

GAMBLING.

Inspector Macdonald charged three men with dealing in Sampian lottery tickets at Yaumati. They were each fined \$25, in default six weeks' imprisonment.

NO MINT FOR SHANGHAI.

Governor Tuan Fung intended to establish a mint in Shanghai and had already ordered the necessary machinery of the works. Chinese-like, the moment a man leaves a place his successor generally countermands if possible all his predecessor's orders. Hence it appears, says the *N. C. Daily News*, that with his Excellency's appointment to Human, Shanghai is not to have a mint, after all. A Nanking despatch states that Viceroy Chou Fu has given orders that the machinery ordered for the Shanghai mint is to be sent on to Nanking and added to that already working in the Kiangnan mint in that city, while the copper and spelter contracted for, upon arrival in Shanghai, are also to be transferred to Nanking.

OPIUM SMUGGLEES.

The *Straits Times* of December 15th says: Opium smuggling in this Settlement is a profitable game. It has been so for a very long time, but from what we now learn the day of the smuggler has come, and he will have to choose between gaining his livelihood by these illicit means or leaving the Colony for the rest of his earthly days. The profits of smuggling are so handsome that no fine is effective enough to stop the practice. The Government has, therefore, taken definite action in the matter, and a policy of banishment has been instituted instead of the former useless fines. The effects of this are already being felt, for smuggling is on the rapid decrease. This is attributed solely to the banishment orders passed up on detected offenders. We believe this is the first time since the Banishment Ordinance was passed that it has been systematically enforced against these opium smugglers, and the effect has been little short of remarkable. Several suspected Chinamen traders in this town are now being closely watched, and if they are detected engaged in the illicit traffic there is little doubt their days in the Colony of the Straits Settlements are numbered. The smuggling is largely carried out from Teochew trading concerns in Amoy and similar ports, the contraband being concealed in Chinese produce brought down here. We are glad to note the wholesome effect of the Government's action in this matter.

At Shanghai, it appears, gas is a much cheaper illuminant than electricity. A correspondent of our contemporary says that he is paying just twice as much for light since he had the electric system put in. He has to pay half a dollar monthly for hire of the meter, whereas his old gas meter was gratis.

STRAITS AND GENERAL DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, LIMITED.

The annual general meeting was held last month at the Institute of Chartered Accountants. Moorgate place. Mr. Alfred Gaußen, who presided, moved the adoption of the report. He observed that the principal item in it was that which dealt with Pasoh and the company's affairs in the East. At the last meeting he reminded the shareholders that £200,000 set against the assets in the Malay Peninsula was a somewhat spectral one. He regretted to have to tell them that the word "spectral" must now be replaced by the word "vanished." The unconditional lease of Pasoh was one of three leases to acquire which the Pahang Exploration Company was formed in 1888, and for which large sums of money were paid. Sir F. Weld, ex-Governor of the Straits Settlements and its dependencies, lent his name and the imprimatur of his high position—a fact which probably conveyed to the investors of the day a sense of security, almost amounting to Government protection. That company's failure was owing, to a great extent, to inadequate police protection during a local war. The Straits Development Company was formed in 1821 to take over the business, and then as regarded Pasoh a new lease was substituted for the old one, the authorities using the opportunity of transfer to insert conditions and to make an unconditional lease conditional. The Straits Development Company followed the Pahang Exploration Company into liquidation after spending about £40,000 in the East. In his opinion the *coup de grace* was given to it by the Government, who cancelled the other two concessions, leaving the company only Pasoh. The Straits and General Development Company was created in 1902, when he became liquidator of the new one. Every conceivable delay faced the company's attempts to get the property transferred to the new company, until the board began to doubt whether there was any intention on the part of the local authorities to transfer it at all. On October 8, 1903, a notice of forfeiture to take effect last July was served on him. During the intervening period, presumably either he was expected to sell a large sum of money, which he did not possess, or the directors were to do so, to Pasoh, to which at the time the company had no title. This state of things was brought to an end on March 1 last by the unexpected news of the granting of the transfer after a delay of two years. The board at once cabled out orders to start a prospecting expedition without delay. When all preparations had been made it was discovered that the so-called transfer was a mere make-believe, for it was only an intimation that the authorities were prepared to consider an application for a prospecting licence for a year. An appeal had been made to the Colonial Secretary, but without effect. There were now two courses open to the company—an appeal to law or the acceptance of their defeat "lying down." They had justice on their side, but he reluctantly advised the shareholders to shrink from the expenditure which would be inevitable if the company fought the matter out. The policy which he advocated would mean the complete severance of the company's interest in the Malay Peninsula and the sale of the machinery as scrap-iron. It meant the winding-up of the Malay States Tin Mines and the disposal of two tin properties for whatever they would fetch; that while the company would remove their operations to a less dangerous sphere they would have to write off £200,000 of their nominal capital. The directors were united in their views on the matter. The company had been forced into their present position by the consistent hostility of the authorities. The board proposed to call the two meetings required by law as soon as possible. Then they would go to the Courts and get permission to reduce the capital by the amounts standing against the two first assets—about three-fourths of the whole. The matter would be laid before the shareholders almost immediately. The rearrangement of the capital account would enable the company as soon as affairs in South Africa took a turn to develop their interests there. Mr. E. J. Halsey seconded the motion, which was adopted after some discussion.

MARINE INSURANCE.

The *Times* Marine insurance reporter wrote on Nov. 24th:—

The steamer *Tung Chow*, reported captured by the Japanese while carrying provisions to Port Arthur, is not apparently insured. She is 1,565 tons, built in 1886, and formerly belonged to the China Navigation Company, but was sold some time since. Coal cargoes for Vladivostok continue to be done. Many of these, after being provisionally insured, have been subsequently cancelled, and an unusual incident occurred yesterday in regard to one of them. The steamer, after arranging for the insurance, was unwilling to put it definitely forward unless the Russian Government would pay cash in London against the shipping and insurance documents. The Russians stated that they would pay cash in St. Petersburg against the documents, but that these papers must be sent thither. In order to provide for all contingencies it was desired, on behalf of the shipper, to insure the risk of payment not being made by Russia after the documents had been sent to St. Petersburg. But not even the most sporting underwriters here would look at the risk. The incident, in itself small, is of some importance as an indication of the exceedingly low opinion entertained here of Russian commercial property.

On November 22, he reported that the *Thala* was not insured.

The number of coal steamers for Vladivostok, and engaged on mysterious coal-carrying charters, increases rapidly, and almost every day sees additions made to the list. They are insured generally for Vladivostok; at 30 guineas per cent, with a return of five guineas per cent if not captured.

Ten guineas per cent have been paid on the British steamer *Inverness*, Tacoma for Muroran, Japan. She left Port Townsend on October 16. The fare is 3,734 tons, built in 1902, and owned by A. M. Sutherland.

LATEST STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

The P.M. steamer *Korea*, with mails, &c., left Nagasaki for this port direct on Tuesday, the 27th inst. at 5 p.m., and is due here to-morrow at 2 p.m.

The C.P.R. steamer *Empress of India* left Vancouver on Monday, the 26th inst. p.m., for Hongkong via the neutral ports of Callao.

The O.S.S. & C.M. steamer *Deccan* left McJui on the 26th inst. at daylight, and is due here about the 31st inst.

The steamer *C. Apcar*, from Calcutta, left Singapore for this port on the morning of the 27th inst., and is due here on the 2nd prox.

NOTICE.

Communications respecting Advertisements, Subscriptions, Printing, Binding, &c., should be addressed to THE MANAGER.

Orders for extra copies of DAILY PRESS should be sent in before 11 a.m. on day of publication. After that hour the supply is limited. Only supplied for Cash.

Advertisements and Subscriptions which are not ordered for a fixed period will be continued until so informed.

Telegraphic Address: PRESS, Codes, A.B.C., 6th Ed.

Editor.

P.O. Box, 33 Telephone No. 12.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND FOOCHOW.

THE Company's Steamship.

"HAITAN."

Captain Roach, will be despatched for the above ports TO-MORROW, the 30th inst., at 10 A.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

DOUGLAS LAPRATT & CO.,

General Managers.

Hongkong, 28th December, 1904. [3011]

AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM YOKOHAMA, KOBE AND SHANGHAI.

THE Company's Steamship.

"GISELA."

having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed at their risk, into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co. Limited, whence delivery may be obtained.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Claims must be sent in to the Office of the Undersigned before Noon, on the 4th January, or they will not be recognized.

No Fire Insurance has been effected, and any Goods remaining in the Godowns after the 4th January, will be subject to rent.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by Sander, Wielker & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 28th December, 1904. [3012]

TO LET.

GODOWNS No. 100 and 101, Praya East, with Water Frontage.

Apply to— VICTORIA BUILDINGS.

Hongkong, 29th December, 1904. [3013]

SWATOW DISTRICT.

LOCAL NOTICE TO MARINERS.

NO. 338.

WRECK OF THE S.S. "WORKFIELD."

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Wreck of the British Steamer Workfield lies sunk in about 18 fathoms at low water spring tides.

Cape of Good Hope bearing N. 45° W. 15 Miles. (Approximate).

A. HOLZ,

Harbour Master.

Approved, FRANK SMITH, Acting Commissioner of Customs.

Custom House, Swatow, 27th December, 1904. [3014]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to Sell by Public Auction,

on

SATURDAY,

the 31st DECEMBER, 1904, at 11.30 A.M., at his

SALES ROOMS, Duddell Street,

A QUANTITY OF ENGLISH BOOTS AND SHOES,

Comprising—

BROWN KID, BROWN GLACE, BLACK BOX CALF, BLACK CALF, BLACK KID,

BLACK GLACE, &c., &c., &c. Also

A Quantity of MESS' GEAR OF H.M.S. BRAMBLE and BRITOMART, Comprising: ELECTRO-WARE, KITCHEN UTENSILS, TABLE LINEN, &c., &c.

On View from Friday, the 30th December.

TERMS.—Cash on delivery.

GEO. P. LAMMERT,

Antiques.

Hongkong, 29th December, 1904. [3015]

EASTERN AND AUSTRALIAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE. (Calling at POET DARWIN and QUEENSLAND PORTS, and taking through cargo to ADELAIDE, NEW ZEALAND, TASMANIA, &c.)

THE Steamship

"AUSTRALIAN,"

Captain Schaw, will be despatched for the above ports on WEDNESDAY, the 11th January, at NOON.

This well-known Steamer is specially fitted for Passengers, and has a Refrigerating Chamber, which ensures the supply of Fresh Provisions, Ice, &c., throughout the voyage.

This Steamer is installed throughout with the Electric Light.

A Stewardess and a duly qualified Surgeon are carried.

N.B.—To assure the additional comfort of passengers the Steamers of the Company have electric fans fitted in staterooms.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO., Agents.

Hongkong, 29th December, 1904. [3016]

STEAMSHIP "AUSTRALIEN," COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

NOTICE.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo from London ex s.s. Motpan, Charante, from Havre ex s.s. Matpan, from Bordeaux ex s.s. Leroy Lallier, in connection with above Steamer, are hereby informed that their Goods, with the exception of Opium, Treasure and Valuables, are being landed and stored at their risks into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., at Kowloon, whence delivery may be obtained immediately after landing.

Optional cargo will be forwarded on unless intimation is received from the Consignee before NOON, To-DAY, the 28th inst., requesting it to be landed here.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by the Undersigned. Goods remaining unclaimed after Wednesday, the 4th January, at NOON, will be subject to rent and landing charges.

All claims must be sent in to me or before the 4th January, or they will not be recognised.

All damaged packages will be examined on Wednesday, the 4th January, at 3 p.m.

No Fire Insurance has been affected.

L. BRIDOU,

Acting Agent.

Hongkong, 28th December, 1904. [3017]

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FROM CALCUTTA, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE Company's Steamship

"LAISANG,"

having arrived from the above ports. Consignees of cargo by her are hereby informed that their Goods will be delivered from along-side.

Cargo impeding the discharge or remaining on board after 12 o'clock NOON, of the 30th inst., will be landed at Consignee's risk and expense into Godowns at EAST POINT.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., General Managers.

Hongkong, 28th December, 1904. [3018]

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND FOOCHOW.

THE Company's Steamship.

"HAITAN."

Captain Roach, will be despatched for the above ports TO-MORROW, the 30th inst., at 10 A.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

DOUGLAS LAPRATT & CO.,

General Managers.

Hongkong, 28th December, 1904. [3011]

AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM YOKOHAMA, KOBE AND SHANGHAI.

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Bills of Lading will be countersigned by Sander, Wielker & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 28th December, 1904. [3012]

INTIMATIONS

THEATRE ROYAL,

CITY HALL.

RETURN OF THE LITTLE FAVOURITES.

FOR SIX NIGHTS ONLY.

POLLARD'S LILLIPUTIAN OPERA COMPANY.

TO-NIGHT (THURSDAY) and

TO-MORROW (FRIDAY),

DECEMBER 29TH and 30TH,

THE LADY SLAVEY.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31ST and

MONDAY, JANUARY 2ND,

(For the First-time in Hongkong).

KING DUO.

MATINEE SATURDAY, at 3.30 P.M.]

THE LADY SLAVEY.

PRICES AS USUAL.

Box Plans at the ROBINSON PIANO CO.

Hongkong, 27th December, 1904. [2927]

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned has just received a Small Consignment of PORT WINE, direct from Portugal.

Price List on application.

J. M. G. PEREIRA,

18, Shelley Street.

Hongkong, 28th December, 1904. [2900]

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED 1841.

AERATED WATER MANUFACTURERS.

NOTICE.

WE Beg to Notify Customers that from

1st January, 1905, Separate Accounts

will be rendered for Aerated Waters.

An inclusive charge will be made for Waters and Bottles, and full credit will be allowed for empties when returned.

Orders for Aerated Waters should be addressed to

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED,

Aerated Water Manufactury,

Des Vieux Road Central.

WANTED.

FOR January, or earlier, a First-class HOUSE of Five or Six Rooms. Good Location. Willing to pay \$200 for suitable place.

Apply to—

M., Care of Daily Press Office.

Hongkong, 2nd December, 1904. [2901]

WANTED.

EILDERY MAN, Portuguese, Parsee or other, as factory STOCKKEEPER and TIMEKEEPER.

Apply—

ROBINSON PIANO CO., LTD.

Hongkong, 21st December, 1904. [2949]

SITUATION WANTED.

YOUNG COMPETENT ACCOUNTANT. Six Years' Eastern experience, good knowledge of Shipping, Insurance, &c., requires Permanent Position. Highest credentiahs and bond if necessary.

Apply—

Care of Daily Press Office.

Hongkong, 24th December, 1904. [2920]

WEBSITE.

YOUNG COMPETENT ACCOUNTANT. Six Years' Eastern

**OCEAN STEAM SHIP CO., LTD.
AND
CHINA MUTUAL STEAM
NAVIGATION CO., LTD.
JOINT SERVICES.**

FORTNIGHTLY SAILINGS FOR LONDON AND CONTINENT.
MONTHLY SAILINGS FOR LIVERPOOL.

TAKING CARGO ON THROUGH BILLS OF LADING FOR ALL EUROPEAN,
NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICAN, WEST AUSTRALIAN, JAVA,
AND SUMATRA PORTS.

OUTWARDS.

FROM	STEAMERS	TO	SAIL
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"PRIAM"	On 4th January.	
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"WRAYCASTLE"	On 5th January.	

HOMEBWARDS.

FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL
AMSTERDAM, LONDON and ANTWERP	"MOYUNE"	On 3rd January.
AMSTERDAM, LONDON and ANTWERP	"HYFON"	On 17th January.
GENOA, MARSEILLES and LIVERPOOL	"HECTOR"	On 20th January.
AMSTERDAM, LONDON and ANTWERP	"PRIAM"	On 31st January.

* Taking cargo for Liverpool at London rates.

TRANS-PACIFIC SERVICE.

FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL
VICTORIA, SEATTLE, TACOMA, and N. PACIFIC COAST PORTS, VIA NAGASAKI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA	"BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE"	For Freight, apply to

Hongkong, 7th December, 1904.

**CHINA NAVIGATION CO.
LIMITED.**

FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL
SHANGHAI	"TAIWAN"	On 29th December.
KOBE	"KASHING"	On 29th December.
MANILA	"TAMING"	On 3rd January.
KOBE	"TAIYUAN"	On 3rd January.
POR. DARWIN, THURSDAY ISLAND, COOTKTOWN, CAIRNS, TOWNSVILLE, BRISBANE	* "TAIYUAN"	On 20th January.
SYDNEY and MELBOURNE		

The attention of Passengers is directed to the superior accommodation offered by these steamers, which are fitted throughout with Electric Light. Unrivalled Table. A duly qualified Surgeon is carried.

+ Taking cargo on through bills of lading to all Yangtze and Northern China Ports.

+ Taking cargo and Passengers at through rates for all New Zealand Ports and other Australian Ports.

REDUCED SALOON FARES, SINGLE AND RETURN, TO MANILA AND AUSTRALIAN PORTS.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
AGENTS.

Hongkong, 28th December, 1904.

IMPERIAL GERMAN MAIL LINE.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD, BREMEN.

STEAM FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, ADEN, SUEZ, POR SAID, NAPLES, GENOA, ANTWERP, BREMEN/HAMBURG, POETS IN THE LEVANTE, BLACK SEA AND BAETIC PORTS; ALSO LONDON, NEW YORK, BOSTON, BALTIMORE, NEW ORLEANS, GALVESTON AND SOUTH AMERICAN PORTS.
STEAMERS WILL CALL AT GIBRALTAR AND SOUTHAMPTON TO LAND PASSENGERS AND LUGGAGE.
N.R.—CARGO CAN BE TAKEN ON THROUGH BILLS OF LADING FOR THE PRINCIPAL PLACES IN RUSSIA.
PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG—SUBJECT TO ALTERATION
SAILING DATES.

1904

SEYDLITZ	WEDNESDAY	4th January 1905
ROON	WEDNESDAY	18th January
BAUERN	WEDNESDAY	1st February
ZIEGEN	WEDNESDAY	15th February
SACHSEN	WEDNESDAY	1st March
PRINZESS ALICE	WEDNESDAY	15th March
PRINZ REGENT LUFTPOLD	WEDNESDAY	29th March
PREUSSEN	WEDNESDAY	12th April
PRINZ EITEL FRIEDRICH	WEDNESDAY	26th April

ON WEDNESDAY, the 4th day of JANUARY, 1905, at NOON, the Steamship "SEYDLITZ," Captain C. Dowers, with MAIIS, PASSENGERS, SPECIE, and CARGO, will leave this Port as above, CALLING AT NAPLES and GENOA.

Shipping Orders will be granted till NOON on MONDAY, the 2nd January. Cargo and Specie will be received on Board until 5 P.M., on TUESDAY, the 3rd January, and Parcels will be received at the Agency's Office until NOON on TUESDAY, the 3rd January.

Contents of Packages are required. No Parcel Receipt will be signed for less than \$2.50, and Parcels should not exceed Two Feet Cubic in Measurement.

The Steamer has splendid accommodation, and carries a Doctor and Stewardesses.

Linen can be washed on board.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.

For further Particulars, apply to

MELCHERS & CO., AGENTS.

Hongkong, 22nd December, 1904.

5

SOUTH AFRICAN LINE OF STEAMERS.

HONGKONG DIRECT, OR VIA CHEFOO or CHIN-WAN-TAO, TO DURBAN, NATAL

The following chartered steamers will run at intervals of about 3 weeks:

S.S. "LOTHIAN"	Captain J. C. Williamson.
S.S. "SOFAF"	Captain G. A. Shepherd.
S.S. "INDRA SHAMA"	Captain R. P. Craven.
S.S. "INDRA VELLI"	Captain S. Cullington.
S.S. "COURFIELD"	Captain J. W. Ward.
S.S. "SWANLEY"	Captain J. P. Dawson.
S.S. "CRANLEY"	Captain W. E. Steele.
S.S. "IKBAL"	Captain M. Robertson.
S.S. "ASCOT"	Captain C. E. Cox.
S.S. "INKUM"	Captain E. S. Pearce.
S.S. "SIKEH"	Captain J. Rowley.
S.S. "SEALDA"	Captain Geo. Brown.

For freight, apply to

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO., AGENTS.

Hongkong, 19th November, 1904.

[2030]

HONGKONG—MANILA.

Highest Class, newest and most luxurious Steamers between Hongkong and Manila. Saloon amidships. Electric Light Perfect Cuisine. SURGEON and STEWARDESS carried. All the most up-to-date arrangements for comfort of Passengers.

CHINA AND MANILA

STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

STEAMSHIP TONS CAPTAIN FOR SAILING DATE.

RUBI.....	2540	R. W. Almond	Manila.	Sat., 31st Dec., 10 A.M.
ZAFIRO.....	2540	R. Rodger	Manila.	Sat., 7th Jan., 10 A.M.

For freight or Passage apply to

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO., GENERAL MANAGERS.

Hongkong, 24th December, 1904.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

FROM HAMBURG, ANTWERP, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE HAL Steamship

"SITHONIA."

Captain Hildebrandt, having arrived from the above ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading for countersignature by the Undersigned and to take immediate delivery of their Goods from alongside.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless notice to the contrary be given before To-DAY, the 23d inst.

Any Cargo impeding her discharge will be landed into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, and Godown Company, Limited, and stored at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, and Godown Company, Limited, whence delivery may be obtained.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 30th inst., will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 30th inst., at 3 P.M.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by the Undersigned.

THE EAST ASIATIC CO., LTD., MELCHERS & CO., Agents.

Hongkong, 23rd December, 1904. [2979]

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamer

"JAVA."

FROM ANTWERP, LONDON, MALTA, PORT SAID, SUZ AND STRAITS.

Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed and placed at their risk in the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, at Kowloon, where each consignment will be sorted out mark by mark and delivery can be obtained as soon as the Goods are landed.

This vessel brings on Cargo.—

From London, etc., ex.s.s. Marmon.

Optional Goods will be landed here unless instructions are given to the contrary before 1 P.M., To-DAY, the 24th inst.

Goods not cleared by the 31st inst., at 4 P.M. will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by me in any case whatever.

Damaged packages must be left in the Godowns for examination by the Consignees and the Company's representatives at an appointed hour.

All Claims must be presented within ten days of the steamer's arrival here, after which date they cannot be recognised.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns.

E. A. HEWITT, Superintendent.

Hongkong, 24th December, 1904. [10-11]

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

THE Steamship

"SOLENT."

are hereby notified that the Cargo is being discharged into Craft, and/or landed at the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., where in both cases it will lie at Consignee's risk. The Cargo will be ready for delivery from Craft or Godown on and after the 24th instant.

Optional Cargo will be landed, unless notice has been given prior to steamer's arrival.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined at

POST OFFICE NOTICES

The parcel mail from Europe, per s.s. "Coronado" being the Christmas Mail and an exceedingly heavy one, the parcels will not be ready for delivery to the public until Sunday morning, the parcel receipts will be distributed by the 12 noon delivery on Saturday or as soon as possible after the arrival of the ship in the Harbour.

The Parcel Office will open from 8 till 11 a.m. on Sunday, and from 8 till 9 a.m. on Monday and Tuesday.

The public are requested to post their local New Year Cards early.

Attention is called to page 5, paragraph 50, of the Hongkong Postal Guide, which has reference to the stamping and posting of New Year Cards.

Cards which are sealed or forwarded in closed covers with the corners cut off or with notched ends will be treated as letters and cannot be forwarded at Book Post rate.

The 2nd and 3rd of January 1905, having been declared public holidays, the Post Office will be closed, except from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. There will be one Delivery and one Collection on Sundays. The Money Order Office will be entirely closed.

In future, the following will be the hours of clearance of Pillar Boxes in Kowloon.

Cosmopolitan Dock	8.30 a.m., 12.30 p.m.
Hung Hom Dock	9.15 a.m., 1.00 p.m.
Yau Ma Tei Police station	9.00 a.m., 1.00 p.m.
Gas Works	9.05 a.m., 1.05 p.m.
Cameron Road	8.00 a.m., 10.00 a.m., 1.45 p.m. and 4.00 p.m.

On Sundays there will be one clearance only.

The Korea, with the American mail left Nagasaki on Tuesday, the 27th inst., at 5 p.m., and may be expected here to-morrow, at 2 p.m.

The Coronado, with the English Mail of the 2nd December, left Singapore on Sunday, the 25th inst., at noon, and may be expected here on or about Saturday, the 31st inst.

MAILS WILL CLOSE

	PEB	DATE
Bacau		
Canton		
Swatow		
Shanghai, Kobe and Yokohama		
Hokkaido and Pahkoo		
Moj and Saha Cruz (Mexico)		
Kobo		
Macao		
Shanghai		
Singapore		
Swatow and Shanghai		
Kongmou and Kumshuk		
Namao		
Samboe		
Canton		
Canton		
Macao		
Swatow, Amoy and Foochow		
Macao		
Straits Colombo and Bombay		
Shanghai		
Manila		
Canton		
Canton		
Manila		
Europe, &c., India via Tucicorin		
(Late Letters 11.00 to 11.30 a.m. Extra Postage 10 cents.)		
(Supplementary mail on board up to the time fixed for departure of the mail Extra Postage 10 cents.)		
(Letters posted in all the Pillar Boxes in time for the first clearance will be included in this contract mail.)		
Macao		
Canton		

TO-DAY.
Sale, Household Furniture, Sales Rooms, Mr. Geo. P. Lammert, 2 p.m.
Pallard's Lilliputian Opera Co., Theatre Royal, City Hall, 9 p.m.

COMMERCIAL.
CLOSING QUOTATIONS.
28th December

ON LONDON.—
Telegraphic Transfer 1/11
Bank Bills, on demand 1/11
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight 1/11
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight 1/11
Credits, at 4 months' sight 1/11
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight 1/11

ON PARIS.—
Bank Bills, on demand 244
Credits, at 4 months' sight 1/48

ON GERMANY.—
On demand 198

ON NEW YORK.—
Bank Bills, on demand 47
Credits, 60 days' sight 48

ON BOMBAY.—
Telegraphic Transfer 144

Bank, on demand 145

ON CALCUTTA.—
Telegraphic Transfer 144

Bank, on demand 145

ON SHANGHAI.—
Bank, at sight 714

Private, 30 days' sight 721

ON YOKOHAMA.—On demand 948

ON MANILA.—On demand—Pesos 948

ON SINGAPORE.—On demand 13 p.m.

ON BATAVIA.—On demand 117

ON HAIPHONG.—On demand 1 p.m.

ON SAIGON.—On demand 1 p.m.

ON RANGOON.—On demand 61

SOVEREIGN, Bank's Buying Rate \$10.20

GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael \$4.10

BALE SILVER, per tael 28.4

OPIUM.
27th December.

Quotations are:—Allow 'em net to 1 cent.
Malwa New \$1070 to \$1090 per picul
Malwa Old \$1140 to \$1160

Malwa Older \$1200 to \$1220

Malwa V. Old \$1250 to \$1270

Persian fine quality \$870 to

Persian extra fine \$900 to

Patna New \$1150 to — per chd.

Patna Old \$ — to —

Banaras Old \$ — to —

VESSELS EXPECTED.

THE AMERICAN MAIL.
The P.M. steamer Korea left Nagasaki for this port direct on Tuesday, the 27th Dec. at 5 p.m., and is due here to-morrow at 2 p.m.

THE ENGLISH MAIL.
The P. & O. steamer Coronado left Singapore for this port on the 25th Dec. at noon, and is due here on the 31st Dec. about noon.

THE GERMAN MAIL.

The I.G.M. steamer Seydlitz left Kobe via Nagasaki and Shanghai on the 25th Dec. p.m., and may be expected here on Tuesday, the 3rd Jan.

The I.G.M. steamer Bayern left Colombo on Saturday, p.m., and may be expected here on Thursday, the 5th Jan.

THE CANADIAN MAIL.

The C.P.R. steamer Empress of India left Vancouver on Monday, the 26th Dec. p.m., for Hongkong via the usual ports of call.

MERCHANT STEAMERS.

The Glen Line steamer Glenart left Singapore on the 22nd Dec., and is due here to-day.

The N.C. steamer Taiyuan, from Australian ports, left Sydney on the 7th Dec., and is due here to-day.

The steamer Shimosa left Singapore for this port on the 24th Dec.

The O.S.S. & C.M. steamer Priyan left Singapore on the 24th Dec. at daylight, and is due here to-morrow.

The O.S.S. & C.M. steamer Deudalion left Moji on the 26th Dec. at daylight, and is due here about the 1st Dec.

The H.A.L. steamer Arcadia, from Hamburg, left Singapore for this port on the 24th Dec., and is due here on the 31st Dec.

The H.A.L. steamer Arcadia, from Hamburg, left Singapore for this port on the 24th Dec., and is due here on the 31st Dec.

The public are requested to post their local New Year Cards early.

JOINT STOCK SHARES.
Hongkong, 27th December.

COMPANY. PAID UP QUOTATIONS

Banks— Hongkong & Shai. \$125 \$715, sales L'don, 270 10s.

Nati. Bank of China A. Shares 28 \$30.
B. Shares 28 \$30.
Four. Shares. 21 \$10.

Insurance— Union \$100 \$600, sellers
China Traders' 25 \$55, sellers
North China 25 Tba, 90, sales & sel.
Yangtze 60 \$120.
Canton 50 \$250, buyers
Hongkong Fire 50 \$335, sellers
China Fire 50 \$90, sales & buyers

Steamship Cosys— H. Canton and M. Indo-China S. N. China and Manila. Douglas Steamship

Star Ferry 100 \$150, sellers

Shell Transport & Trading Co. Do, pref. shares ... 21 25s.

Do, pref. shares ... Do, pref. shares ... 21 25s.

Refineries— China Sugar 100 \$227, buyers
Linen Sugar 100 \$15, buyers

Mining— Carbonnages Feb. 250 \$490.
Rakke 18/10 \$4, sellers

Dock Etc.— H. & W. Dock 50 \$215, sales
H. & K. Wharf & G. New Amoy Dock 50 \$112, sellers
Tia 100 \$160.

Land and Building— Hongkong Land Inv. 100 \$147, sellers
Kwai Loon Land & B. West Pointbuilding 50 \$60, sellers
Hongkong Hotel 100 \$124, sellers

Companies— Almamers, Ltd. Bell's Asbestos E. A. Campbell, Rivers & Co. China-Borneo Co., Ltd. China Prov. L. & M. Dairy Farm Ge. Seawick & Co. Green Island Cement. Hongkong Electric. Hongkong & C. Gas. H. L. Tramways. Hongkong Iron. Hongkong Rope. Hk. Steam Water-boat Co. Ltd. Philippine Co., Ltd. S. H. Dyeing & Co. S. China Morning Post. China Light and Power Co. Ltd. United Asbestos Co. Do. Watkins, Ltd. Watson & Co. A.S. William Powell, Ltd.

Printed Matter and Samples— 10.00 a.m. Registration 10.00 a.m. Registration, with late fee of 10 cents, up to 10.45 a.m.) Letters 11.00 a.m.

Bengal— Saturday, 31st, 1.35 p.m. Bengal Sunday, 1st Jan., 9.00 a.m.

Henanhan— Saturday, 31st, 1.35 p.m. Kinshun Sunday, 1st Jan., 9.00 a.m.

The P. & A. steamer Nicomedes arrived at Yokohama on the 16th Dec. and left again on the 19th Dec., via Kobe and Moji and may be expected here on the 1st Jan.

The steamer C. Apcer, from Calcutta, left Singapore for this port on the 27th Dec. a.m., and is due here on the 2nd Jan.

The P. & A. steamer Numantia left Portland (Or.) on the 18th Dec. via Japan ports, and may be expected here on the 23rd Jan.

The Boston S.S. Co.'s steamer Tremont arrived at Yokohama on the 13th Dec.

The steamer Louther Castle left New York on the 5th Dec.

The C.F.R. steamer Tartar left Vancouver for Hongkong via the usual ports of call on Tuesday, the 13th Dec., a.m.

The steamer Lyra left Victoria on the 12th Dec.

The steamer Germanicus left Victoria (B.C.) on the 14th Inst.

STEAMERS PASSED THE CANAL. Dec. 9th—Belvoir, Gloucester, Glenroy, Heatherside, Wray Castle. 13th—Palma, Spuria, Persia, Duncarron, Thode, Fagelund, Bayern. 16th—Aja, Andalusia, Ariete, Saluzio, 20th—Ernest Simons, Quinta, 20th—Alesio, Iberus, Kaisow, Muchau, Riederschire, Stevonia, Heatherside. 27th—Albuaga, Baralong, Benvorlich, Formosa, Jason, Zetra, Easby Abbey.

ARRIVALS AT HOME. Dec. 20th—Ulves, 25th—Hindustan, 27th—Manila, Prinz Regent Luitpold.

PASSENGERS ARRIVED.

Per Laisang, from Calcutta, &c., Messrs. Stringer, Vall and Duncan.

Per Hangay, from Shanghai, &c., Messrs. Campbell and Witterdinck.

Per Haifan, from coast Ports, Rev. Knox, Mr. and Miss Hayes J. Brown, Mrs. Fooken, Capt. Broadhead, Messrs. T. G. Crone, S. T. Connally, T. Hopkins, F. Shields, T. H. Rodgers, Mr. T. Bailey, M. Hull, T. Diggie, T. B. Jones, T. Glass and M. McLean.

Per Australasia, for Hongkong, from Manila, Messrs. J. T. Tayson and A. G. Passmore; from Colombo, Mr. K. Edulji Veid; from Singapore, Messrs. Moss and Argyl Robertson; from Saigon, Rev. Fathers Mathew, Mission, Bellocq and Keller, and Mr. Wilden; for Shanghai, from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Besse Desmondiere and 2 children, Mrs. Veronique and son, Mr. Thellot, Rev. Carlo Cesoli and 2 Fathers, Mr. and Mrs. Trouillet, Mrs. Dolval, Messrs. Girod and Dierard; from Colombo, Mrs. Goldstein and 2 children, Mr. Sardari; from Singapore, Messrs. W. Lasko, J. Spitzer, M. Spitzer and M. Spitzer; from Saigon, Messrs. Mascares, Calvez, Legall, Lorain, Coulon, Choudron and Carpeaux; for Yokohama, from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Becker, Messrs. Koenigsberg, Matignon and Monbaron, Sisters Ronne and Stephanie; from Djibouti, Mr. Melville; from Singapore, Messrs. Brabrook and F. S. Barker.

Per Ruby, from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Wheeler, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Wise, Miss Hunter, Messrs. James Ellis, McLaren, Miss Huitt, Miss Cottrell, Mr. O. Raft, Miss Paddock, Mr. Ed. A. Ayer, Mrs. Ayer, Messrs. Frank-Pierce and Alexander Jerusalmi.

DEPARTED.

Per Tonkin, for Saigon, Messrs. Catube Janes, Jaulet, Ambroise, F. Murakami, and Miss T. Takamashi; for Singapore, Messrs. J. H. Pearson, O. L. Cohen, Miss Worthen, Walter Grisette, Hendrik Ver Meer, Mr. and Miss R. D. Cohen, Mr. L. Cohen, Miss F. Yokono, Messrs. Chye Hupp, Johnnes, Cras and Paolo Vella; for Colombo, Mr. Luis Gonzalez Ferre, Mr. and Miss L. S. Campbell; for Marseilles, Mrs. H. Coleau, Messrs. Gillard and Brophy, Mr. and Miss J. C